

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

14

Applicant's or agent's file reference level	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416).
International Application No. PCT/AU00/00249	International Filing Date (day/month/year) 24 March 2000	Priority Date (day/month/year) 26 March 1999
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC Int. Cl. 7 C07H 21/04, C12N 9/02, 9/04, 5/10, 15/29, 15/53		
Applicant JOHNSON & JOHNSON RESEARCH PTY LIMITED et al		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet.

This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of sheet(s).

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

I	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report
II	<input type="checkbox"/> Priority
III	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
IV	<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention
V	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
VI	<input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited
VII	<input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application
VIII	<input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 26 October 2000	Date of completion of the report 13 March 2001
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929	Authorized Officer K. LEVER Telephone No. (02) 6283 2254

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

 the international application as originally filed. the description, pages , as originally filed,

pages , filed with the demand,

pages , received on with the letter of

 the claims, pages , as originally filed,

pages , as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19,

pages , filed with the demand,

pages , received on with the letter of

 the drawings, pages , as originally filed,

pages , filed with the demand,

pages , received on with the letter of

 the sequence listing part of the description:

pages , as originally filed

pages , filed with the demand

pages , received on with the letter of

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language which is:

 the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)). the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)). the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, was on the basis of the sequence listing:

 contained in the international application in written form. filed together with the international application in computer readable form. furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form. furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form. The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished. The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of: the description, pages the claims, Nos. the drawings, sheets/fig.5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims 1-62	YES
	Claims	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims 1-62	YES
	Claims	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-62	YES
	Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Unterlinner et al is published after the priority date of this application. The priority date appears to be valid so this document does not impact on the novelty or inventive step of any of the current claims. If the priority is later determined to be invalid this document would impact on the Novelty of claims 1-10 and the inventive step of claims 1-62. As this document discloses the polynucleotides of claim 1-10 and suggests the use of the polynucleotides in genetic engineering of poppies to improve morphine production.

Lenz et al discusses the isolation and purification of codeinone reductase and investigates its properties. The document however doesn't go further to identify the nucleotide sequence or the genetic engineering concepts of the current application. Therefore it is considered that this document is merely background art does not impact on the novelty or inventive step of the current claims.

Claims 1-62 are considered Novel, Inventive and to be Industrial Applicable.